

Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 EB-11 COME-00 TRSE-00 SCEM-02 INT-08 SCI-06

IO-14 DRC-01 /157 W

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R 141445Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2170

INFO USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

SECDEF WASHDC

CNO WASHDC

USCINCEUR

CINCUSNAVEUR

CINCUSAFE

UNCLAS ATHENS 0288

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, AFSP, ALLOW, EFIN, AFIN, GR

SUBJECT: GREECE FURTHER RESTRICTS POL AND ELECTRIC POWER
CONSUMPTION AND RAISES PRICES

1. SUMMARY: INDUSTRY MINISTER KYPREOS ANNOUNCED JANUARY 12 RESTRICTIONS ON CONSUMPTION PETROLEUM PRODUCTS AND ELECTRIC POWER, AND HIGHER POL PRICES (GASOLINE UP 65 PERCENT TO \$2.08 PER GALLON OF PREMIUM) AND POWER RATES. MEASURES ARE INTENDED TO REDUCE CONSUMPTION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE EXPENDITURES, WHICH OTHERWISE MIGHT HAVE RISEN TO \$800-900 MILLION IN 1974 (AS COMPARED WITH AN ESTIMATED \$350 MILLION IN 1973).

2. INCREASED RETAIL PRICES FOR MOTOR GASOLINE, DIESEL OIL AND FUEL OIL BECAME EFFECTIVE 20.30 HOURS JANUARY 11. NEW PRICES APPLICABLE IN ATTICA AND THESSALONIKI AREAS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

(A) MOTOR GASOLINE - REGULAR UP 68.7 PERCENT TO 13.50 DRACHMAS
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(30 DRACHMAS EQUAL \$1.00) PER LITER

(B) MOTOR GASOLINE - PREMIUM UP 65 PERCENT TO 16.50 DRACHMAS

PER LITER

(C) DIESEL OIL UP 33.3 PERCENT TO 4 DRACHMAS PER LITER

(D) FUEL OIL "1500" (USED FOR HOME HEATING) UP 80 PERCENT TO
1800 DRACHMAS PER METRIC TON EX-REFINERY

(E) FUEL OIL "3500" (INDUSTRIAL GRADE) UP 66.6 PERCENT TO
1250 DRACHMAS PER METRIC TON EX-REFINERY

(F) KEROSENE UP 39 PERCENT TO 5.70 DRACHMAS PER KILO

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 12, TAXICAB RATES WERE INCREASED BY 23 PERCENT

3. ELECTRIC POWER MEASURES INCLUDE:

(A) TO ACHIEVE REDUCTION IN POWER CONSUMPTION BY HOUSEHOLDS,
NEW HIGHER POWER RATES, UNIFORMLY APPLICABLE THROUGHOUT
COUNTRY, WILL BE INTRODUCED AND ESCALATED RATES (PLUS
15 TO 40 PERCENT) WILL BE CHARGED TO CONSUMERS EXCEEDING
150 KWH PER MONTH

(B) MUNICIPALITY AND COMMUNAL LIGHTING WILL BE REDUCED BY
50 PERCENT

(C) LIGHTED ADVERTISING SIGNS AND SHOW-WINDOW LIGHTING WILL
BE TURNED OFF AFTER 9 P.M.

(D) THERE WILL BE NO LIGHTED ADVERTISING SIGNS OUTSIDE
CITY LIMITS

(E) TV PROGRAMS WILL BE TERMINATED AT 11.15 P.M.

(F) CONTINUOUS WORKING HOURS WILL SOON BE INTRODUCED

(G) LIGHTING IN PUBLIC BUILDINGS WILL BE REDUCED TO
ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY LEVELS

4. PETROLEUM CONSUMPTION MEASURES INCLUDE:

(A) CONSUMERS ARE URGED TO REDUCE CONSUMPTION OF DIESEL OIL
AND FUEL OIL FOR HEATING PURPOSES WITH INDOOR TEMPERATURE
AT MAXIMUM OF 20 DEGREES CENTRIGRADE

(B) EFFECTIVE MARCH 15 USE OF FUEL OIL "1500" FOR HEATING
PURPOSES WILL BE PROHIBITED

(C) BEGINNING SATURDAY JANUARY 12, CIRCULATION OF PRIVATE
PASSENGER CARS FROM 7 P.M. SATURDAYS TO 4 A.M. MONDAYS
WILL BE CUT IN HALF BY ALTERNATE RESTRICTION ACCORDING
TO ODD AND EVEN LICENSE PLATE NUMBERS

(D) MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT ON ALL HIGHWAYS REDUCED TO 80 KILOMETERS.

(E) ASPHALT CONSUMPTION DURING 1974 REDUCED TO 200,000 METRIC
TONS (COMPARED WITH 250,000 M. TONS IN 1973).

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(F) DOMESTIC SEA TRANSPORT PASSENGER SCHEDULES WILL BE
REVISED

5. MINISTER STRESSED FOLLOWING POINTS:

(A) DOMESTIC POL CONSUMPTION ROSE AT AVERAGE ANNUAL RATE OF
11 PERCENT DURING 1960-1970

(B) DOMESTIC POL CONSUMPTION EXCEEDED 8 MILLION TONS IN 1973
COVERING OVER 70 PERCENT OF GREECE'S ANNUAL ENERGY
REQUIREMENTS

(C) WORLD ENERGY CRISIS CAUSED 25 TO 30 PERCENT REDUCTION IN

THAT PORTION OF GOG'S REQUIREMENTS COVERED BY LONG TERM
CRUDE OIL SUPPLY CONTRACTS AND FORCED COSTLY SUPPLEMENTAL
PURCHASES OF CRUDE AND PRODUCTS.

(D) NEW MEASURES HAVE BEEN DESIGNED TO HAVE MINIMUM IMPACT
ON PRODUCTIVE SECTORS OF ECONOMY

(D) SUCCESS OF NEW MEASURES DEPENDS LARGELY ON RESPONSE AND
COOPERATION OF CONSUMERS AND GOG CONFIDENT PUBLIC WILL
COOPERATE.

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